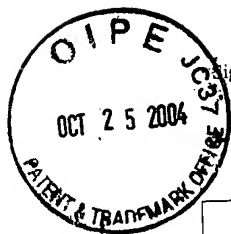


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on 18 October 2004.



Signed: Paula Faulk Hurley  
Paula Faulk Hurley

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Rodolfo A. Morales	Attorney Docket No.: GDS 1003-4
Application No.: 10/776,682	Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: February 10, 2004	Group: 3764
Title: Devices and Methods for Heart Valve Repair	Confirmation No.: 3785
	Customer No. 22470

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

Since this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP 609.

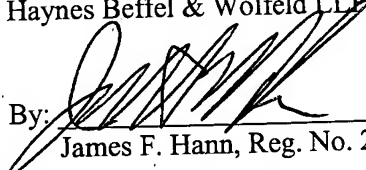
Enclosed with this statement is a Form PTO/SB/08A. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. 609.

Also enclosed with this statement is a copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.98. However, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of U. S. Patents and U. S. Patent Application Publications are not enclosed. (See O. G. Notice of August 5, 2003.)

This statement should be considered under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) because it is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

**Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0869 (GDS 1003-4). A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Haynes Beffel & Wolfeld LLP

By:   
James F. Hann, Reg. No. 29,719

Date: 18 October 2004

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

OCT 25 2004

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

## **Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/776,682
Filing Date	02/10/2004
First Named Inventor	Rodolfo A. Morales
Group Art Unit	3764
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	GDS 1003-4

Sheet 1 of 2

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A1	5,257,975		Foshee	11-02-1993	
	A2	5,522,873		Jackman et al.	06-04-1996	
	A3	5,752,518		McGee et al.	05-19-1998	
	A4	5,769,812		Stevens et al.	06-23-1998	
	A5	5,868,733		Ockuly et al.	02-09-1999	
	A6	5,885,238		Stevens et al.	03-23-1999	
	A7	5,888,240		Carpentier et al.	03-30-1999	
	A8	6,602,289		Colvin et al.	08-05-2003	
	A9	6,641,593		Schaller et al.	11-04-2003	
	A10	6,702,826		Liddicoat et al.	03-09-2004	
	A11	6,718,985		Hlavka et al.	04-13-2004	
	A12	2002/0138044	A1	Streeter et al.	09-26-2002	
	A13	2003/0078603	A1	Schaller et al.	04-24-2003	
	A14	2003/0093118	A1	Ho et al.	05-15-2003	
	A15	2003/0130731	A1	Vidlund et al.	07-10-2003	
	A16	2003/0199974	A1	Lee et al.	10-23-2003	
	A17					
	A18					
	A19					
	A20					

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B1	WO	98/07375		Trustees of Columbia U.	02-26-1998		
	B2	WO	02/03892		Paul A. Spence	01-17-2002		
	B3							
	B4							
	B5							
	B6							
	B7							
	B8							
	B9							
	B10							

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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<b>Substitute for form 1449B/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	10/776,682	
			Filing Date	02/10/2004	
			First Named Inventor	Rodolfo A. Morales	
			Group Art Unit	3764	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	GDS 1003-4

<b>OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	C1	"Anatomical Landscape of Heartport Technology", Heartport Common Stock Prospectus, April 25, 1996, pp. 158-159.	
	C2	NAGY, ZSOLT L. et al., "Mitral annuplasty with a suture technique", European Journal of Cardio-thoracic Surgery 18 (2000) p. 739.	
	C3	SHUMWAY, SARA J. et al., "A "Designer" Annuplasty Ring for Patients with Massive Mitral Annular Dilation", Ann Thorac Surg, Dec. 1988, 46:695-696.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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